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The first chapter reviews the natural resources of the state, discussing in particular water power, oil, gas, coal, clays, sand, and stone. Each chapter closes with a brief but comprehensive summary statement. Under each chapter heading numerous subdivisions make easily available a wide range of related information.

Official information secured from state and United States government reports has served as the basis for the discussion; and the authors' subtitle, "A social and economic survey," is well chosen.

Six state maps showing the distribution of various products and a number of charts and tables add to the book's attractiveness and usefulness.

A leading virtue of this contribution is its satisfactory presentation of important facts in compact form. In the preface the authors state: "In these pages there will be found a concise description of Indiana as she is, and the problems that she faces. No effort is made to gloss over her shortcomings, no space is wasted in empty pæans. On the other hand, the good is related without exaggeration; and there is a great deal of good to be told." After carefully examining the volume one is led to believe that they have vindicated this statement.

After reading the many histories which put their emphasis on the beginnings it is very gratifying to have the opportunity of reading one which places the emphasis on the present. Six and one-half pages of selected references and an index of four and one-half pages complete the volume.

HARLOW LINDLEY

Perry county, a history. By Thomas James De La Hunt. (Indianapolis: W. K. Stewart company, 1916. 359 p. \$2.50)

The volume under review belongs to the best class of local history. The author is a scholar, a descendant of one of the first settlers of the county about which he writes; and he has spent his entire life in the county. It is absolutely necessary in most cases of the publication of county histories to depend on personal biographical sketches as a means of financing the work. The author of this volume has not been so handicapped so that the reader feels all along that he is reading history uninfluenced by any extraordinary considerations. The author has a fluent style and a wealth of literary allusion which he has employed legitimately in making every one of the thirty-eight chapters as readable as a short story. Such chapters as the pioneer settlers, Lafayette's steamboat wreck on Rock Island, the Lincoln family in Perry county, the missionary work of Father Bessonies, famous steamboats, the Swiss colonization society, the chapters on the civil war, are as readable as ordinary fiction. It should be noted here, however, that the author has observed all the

rules of history. His sources are indicated and where they fail, he frankly tells us. The chapters on the civil war are especially interesting and significant from the standpoint of both state and national history. It is usually stated, but always without any authority, that southern Indiana and southern Illinois, having been settled by immigrants from the southern states, were more or less favorable toward the secessionists. Perry county was one of the most unfavorably located counties in Indiana with reference to the separation of the states. It faced the south. Its business outlook was to the south. Its social relations were with the south and though Perry county once resolved that if the separation must be made it wished the line to pass north of the county it never was in favor of the separation of the states. What it did fear was sixty miles of international boundary in its front door yard. The author shows beyond question the loyalty of his fellow citizens during the war. No county in the state, perhaps, according to its means furnished more assistance to the union. The author is to be pardoned for dwelling on this theme just a little for his father gave his life to the cause. The book is remarkably free from historical or typographical errors although, as seems to be necessary in a first edition, there are a few of the latter. Altogether it is one of the best county histories that has come under the reviewer's notice.

LOGAN ESAREY

Life of Jesse W. Fell. By Frances M. I. Morehouse, A.M., high school supervisor in social sciences, Illinois state normal university. [University of Illinois studies in the social sciences, vol. v, no. 2] (Urbana: University of Illinois, 1916. 129 p. \$.60)

One of the marvels of history is the occupation of the North American continent by the English speaking race. A scant three hundred years intervened between the landing at Jamestown and the disappearance of the last frontier. Most of the advance from the Appalachians to the Pacific was made in a single century. In the span of a single generation, large areas were changed from primitive wildness into a land with all the accompaniments of modern institutional life.

The very marvel of the thing has taxed the skill of historians in their effort to comprehend or to depict. Some have told us of the broad political, economic, and social movements. Others have given us glimpses of phases of the frontier and near-frontier life in the stories of exceptional men, but the focus of attention has been chiefly upon these men, their ambitions, and their achievements. Still others have given us generalized accounts of pioneer conditions, problems, and hardships. Few have given us any satisfactory account of the life-history of an average pioneer